

## METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MERGING SCAN FILES INTO A COLOR WORKFLOW

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### ABSTRACT

10 A method and system for scanning documents in a network environment and  
merging the resulting scan files with other documents into a printing workflow  
provides a user interface in which the user merges a scan file and a document  
file on a page basis by selecting thumbnail images of the desired pages and  
dragging and dropping the thumbnails so that a new merged document results.  
An alternative embodiment allows the user to apply predefined merge  
15 templates to the selected pages. The predefined merge templates may include  
printing and formatting instructions such as color settings and a page layout.

20 The system architecture provides a color print server and a client workstation in  
communication with the color print server. A scanning device, which may be a  
dedicated scanner or the platen of a copying machine is connected to the color  
print server or the client workstation. The scanning software, resident on either  
the color print server or the workstation allows the user to customize the scan  
and apply modifications to the image after scanning. Scanned images may be  
retrieved by email or over the World Wide Web. The color print server and the  
25 attached scanning device may also function as a color copier.